THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Home Secretary to examine the existing system of issuance of licences for manufacture, supply and movement of explosive materials, and suggest measures for proper monitoring, as well as an effective mechanism with appropriate accountability at each level, including manufacture, supply, tracking of transit and utilization at the user's end, in order to prevent these material from falling into undesirable hands.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Gujarat Government's proposal for upgradation of Coastal Police Stations

1306. SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal by Government of India has been received from Gujarat State for upgradation of 41 Coastal Police Stations;

(b) if so, the status of the proposal; and

(c) whether Government has accorded/sanctioned camel patrolling system, watch towers, etc. under the above scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal from Government of Gujarat was received in 2006-07 for upgrading of the existing 40 police stations. But, the proposal could not be considered as the ongoing Coastal Security Scheme, which is under implementation since 2005-06 is approved for five years and any such proposal could be considered only at the time of review after that. The State Government was informed accordingly.

(c) No, Sir.

Better arms and communication system with naxals

1307. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Maoists are better equipped with not only superior weaponry but also with superior communications and information network compared to security personnels;

(b) if so, the preparedness of State police and central para military forces to deal with naxalite problem in different States;

(c) how the sophisticated arms and communication system is reaching naxals; and

(d) what kind of training and modernization is being done at the level of State police and how far Government is providing help in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) As per information available, Maoists have sophisticated weapons and communication systems. They primarily get a substantial bulk of

their weapons by looting. They also get them from illicit weapon manufacturing units. Law and order being a State subject, action in this regard is taken by the concerned State Governments. State Governments maintain close vigil in this respect, and also conduct Intelligence-based operations against naxalite hideouts and illicit weapon manufacturing units.

The Central Government maintains a close and continuous watch on the activities of the naxalites, including detailed consultations with the State Government authorities about the various developments and the steps required to check and control naxalite activities.

The Central Government also supplements the efforts and resources of the concerned State Governments by a variety of measures that include deployment of Central paramilitary forces which work under the control of the State Government concerned, sanctioning of India Reserve battalions, assistance for strengthening of the State police and Intelligence agencies under the scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces, re-imbursement of security-related expenditure, assistance in training of State police forces through the Ministry of Defence, Central Police Organisations and Bureau of Police Research and Development, sharing of Intelligence, facilitating inter-State coordination and assistance in development works through a range of schemes of various Ministries.

A Task Force under Special Secretary (Internal Security), with senior officers from Intelligence agencies, Central paramilitary forces and State police forces, deliberates upon the gamut of operational steps needed to deal with the naxalite activities and facilitates coordination between authorities of different States as may be necessary.

Taking steps as appropriate and necessary, having regard to the situation obtaining, is a continuous process.

Increasing incidence of terrorist attack due to intelligence failure

1308. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of attacks and blasts by terroists have been rising;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last five years;

(c) whether these are due to intelligence failure or security forces failed to take serious note of intelligence reports; and

(d) the action beting taken to root out terrorism from the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) It is not a fact that incidents of attacks and blasts by terrorists have been rising or that this is on account of intelligence failure. Although violence and militancy have continued in some parts of the country, the overall situation has remained largely in control. In fact, there has been a significant improvement in so far as the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, and even in the North Eastern Region, the situation has improved considerably in some State such as Tripura and Meghalaya, while co-ordinated measures are being taken to check and control the activities of militant groups in the other affected States in the region *viz.*, Assam, Manipur and Nagaland. In the naxal